



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 9, 2008

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SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

James Reinhard, M.D., commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS), issued the following statement regarding the U.S. Department of Health's National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month 2008:

"Nationwide, abuse of alcohol and other drugs takes a tremendous toll on individuals with substance-use disorders and their families.

"The National Survey on Drug Use and Health reports that nearly 9 percent of Virginians age-12 and over, or about 400,000 individuals, have had a substance-use disorder this past year.

"DMHMRSAS and treatment programs across the Commonwealth are committed to providing substance-use services that are tailored for each individual, that integrate both substance-use and mental health services when necessary, and that support recovery.

"Recovery Month is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of substance-use disorder treatment and to thank the public and private treatment providers who help make recovery from alcohol and drug addiction possible for individuals across the Commonwealth."

For more information on Recovery Month, visit www.recoverymonth.gov.

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Available to citizens statewide, Virginia's public mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services system is comprised of 40 community services boards (CSBs) and 16 state facilities. DMHMRSAS seeks to promote dignity, choice, recovery, and the highest possible level of participation in work, relationships, and all aspects of community life for these individuals with mental health, mental retardation or substance abuse disorders.

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